

Professor Joshua Lederberg
President-Emeritus
The Rockefeller University
1230 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021-6399

January 2, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

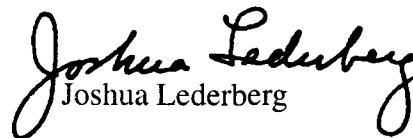
I am writing to entreat your active personal leadership in bringing the ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention to an early Senate vote.

Like you, I have a strong personal commitment to ridding the world of chemical and biological weapons. For the past 30 years, I have worked to develop effective means to combat, deter, and neutralize the effects of these agents. It was my privilege to attend President Nixon's signature of the BWC just short of twenty five years ago and I look forward to an equal triumph of statesmanship soon for the CWC. I know I do not have to belabor the agreements how the security of the U.S. and the tranquillity of the world will be eroded if the U.S. does not ratify the CWC.

It seems evident that ratification hinges on your direct personal involvement in moving the treaty through the Senate. Your commitment can help override the opposition of many Senators who have received false information about the convention and its effects. Success in this endeavor will further strengthen your solid non-proliferation record, and set the stage for additional progress in the next four years.

The CWC is a landmark treaty that should serve as a foundation for future urgently needed non-proliferation initiatives and a more stable international order. Your past support for the CWC is much appreciated, and, as you move forward in 1997, I stand ready to assist you in any way. I look forward to working with the administration in this important endeavor.

Yours sincerely,


Joshua Lederberg

arguing